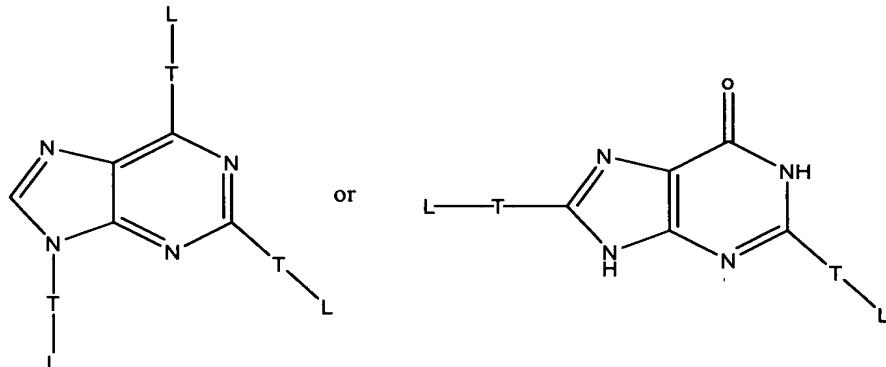


REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This amendment accompanies a Request for Continued Examination (RCE).

The instant invention is directed to methods of preparing novel libraries of compounds which comprises at least six chemical compounds represented by either structure.



Such mixtures are well suited for a variety of uses including screening of pharmaceutical, industrial chemical, and pesticide compounds. Unlike typical combinatorial mixtures, the instant mixture can be formed in the solution phase.

Claims 31-33, 35-40, 42-46, 48-50 are pending. Claims 31, 38, and 45 are amended. The basis for the amendment can be found through the specification. See, for example, examples 6, 8, 10 and 11. Claims 34, 41, and 47 are canceled.

Claims 31-50 stand rejected as allegedly unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph as allegedly failing to meet the written description requirement. In particular, the scope of the claims is the focus of the objection (Advisory Action, pages 1-5). While not agreeing with the rejection, Applicants have amended claims 31, 38, and 45 to certain compositions depicted above in order to further prosecution. This amendment is believed to address the scope objections raised in the previous communications. In view of these amendments, Applicants respectfully request

DOCKET NO.: ISIS-5031
Application No.: 10/087,424
Office Action Dated: September 29, 2003

PATENT
REPLY FILED UNDER EXPEDITED
PROCEDURE PURSUANT TO
37 CFR § 1.116

reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection.

Claims 31, 32, 34-36, 38, 39, 41-43, and 45-49 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as allegedly anticipated by PCT Patent Application No. WO 96.33972 (the Gordeev reference). A reference cannot anticipate a claim, however, unless it discloses "every element as set forth in the claim . . . either expressly or inherently described." Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of Calif., 814 F.2d 628, 631 (Fed. Cir. 1987); MPEP § 2131. The amended claims are limited to purine compounds. The Gordeev passages cited by in the September 29, 2004 Final Rejection at pages 8-9, in contrast, show pyrimidine compounds. Applicants assert that the Gordeev reference does not anticipate any instant claim. As such, Applicants respectfully ask for reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection.

Claims 31-50 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly obvious over the Gordeev reference and Bioorg. Med. Chem. Lett. 1994, 4, 2821-24 (the Smith reference). As discussed above the Gordeev reference lacks certain elements of each rejected claim. Nothing in the Smith reference overcomes, or is alleged to overcome, these deficiencies. As such, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection.

DOCKET NO.: ISIS-5031
Application No.: 10/087,424
Office Action Dated: September 29, 2003

PATENT
REPLY FILED UNDER EXPEDITED
PROCEDURE PURSUANT TO
37 CFR § 1.116

Applicants believe that the claims presently before the Examiner patentably define the invention over the art of record and are otherwise in condition for ready allowance. An early Office Action to that effect is, therefore, earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: March 1, 2004

John A. Harrelson, Jr.

John A. Harrelson, Jr.
Registration No. 42,637

Woodcock Washburn LLP
One Liberty Place - 46th Floor
Philadelphia, PA 19103
Telephone: (215) 568-3100
Facsimile: (215) 568-3439